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# THE Great Prophecy OF King William's SUCCESS IN FLANDERS: OR, The Happy Fourth Year OF HIS MAJESTY's REIGN:

Giving ſeveral *Famous Predictions* of the Honour of *ENGLAND*, in His Glorious Actions to be performed this preſent year, 1692.

Licenſed and Entred according to Order.

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# THE Great Prophecy OF King William's Succeſs in *Flanders*, &c.

THE Great Changes and Revolutions which have happen'd in the Affairs of the World have been very often uſhered in with ſome ſtrange Preſages and Predictions. It would be tedious to recount all the prodigious Comets, Viſions, Apparitions and Prophecies which have in all Ages given occaſion of Wonder and Amazement. This is moſt certain, never was there a more active World than now, and perhaps the mightieſt Wheels are now at work that the great Machine ever ſet a-moving. The long depending Tryal of skill between the vaſt Ambition of *France*, and the tugging World engaged againſt him, affords Mankind no mean Hopes and Fears, and no common Expectation. And if Portents and Predictions were ever the Forerunners of extraordinary Revolutions, we have ſome Reaſon to believe, that ſince the preſent Ferment of *Europe* is too violent to hold long at a ſtay, and ſome great Change muſt ſuddenly follow; if all thoſe ſpeaking Oracles are not quite ſilenced, there may be ſome Propheticks pointing to this preſent Age. Though Prophecies, 'tis true,

generally meet the ſame Treatment from the incredulous World, which *Noah*'s Prophetick Sermon of forty years, whilſt he was building the Ark, received from the inſenſible Race of mankind before the univerſal Deluge.

And as the generality of Prophecies are commonly ſo wrapt in Diſguiſe and Riddle, that it is very difficult to give 'em an Interpretation; yet without vanity I here preſent the Reader with ſome few poſſibly as free from that Veil and Obſcurity as any he has met with, and perhaps thoſe that ſpeak as plainly to this Great Fourth Year of our preſent King *William* as can be expected.

The Firſt ſhall be that ancient one going under the Title of *Mr. Truſwell, the Recorder of Lincoln's Prophecy*; found the beſt part of a hundred Years ago in the Ruins of a Religious Houſe near *Lincoln*, and poſſibly firſt written as long before, the barbarous *Latin* in which it was penn'd giving ſufficient aſſurance of its Antiquity, being much about the Standart of the Learning of thoſe Times. And that the Reader may be confident 'tis no modern *Novel* or *Fiction*, it has been in Print theſe forty Years, in a Treatiſe called *A Voice from Heaven*, printed *Anno* 1652. And conſequently as near as it reſembles the preſent 1692. can be no foiſted Sham or Invention.

## The PROPHECY.

*Lilium manebit in meliori parte, & movebitur contra ſemen Leonis. Et ſtabit ex una parte inter ſpinas Regni ſui, cujus Regnum eſt Terra Lunæ, per totum Orbem timendum. Et veniet Filius hominis ferens feras in brachiis, cum multitudine Populi, tranſibit multas aquas, & veniet in terram Leonis, auxilium quærens à beſtiis terræ ſuæ. Veniet Aquila ex Oriente, aliis expanſis radiis filii Hominis. Et hoc anno Caſtra ſuper Thameſin peribunt, & magnus erit timor in toto Orbe, & in quadam parte terræ. Magna prælia erunt inter multos Reges, & in illo die erit* Pugna Cruenta *in qua* Lilium *perdet coronam ſuam, de qua coronabitur filius hominis. Et quarto anno multa erant pro fide certamina; caput mundi erit ad Terram. Filius hominis & Aquila elevabuntur: & tunc erit*

*Pax*

*Pax in Terris Univerſalis. Et accipiet filius hominis mirabile ſignum. Et erit magna frugum abundantia.*
*ibit in Terram Crucis.*

*In ENGLISH.*

The *Lilly* ſhall remain upon the better part, and he ſhall be moved againſt the Seed of the Lyon. And *he* ſhall ſtand on one part amongſt the *Thorns* of his own *Kingdom*, whoſe Kingdom is the *Land of the Moon*, which is to be dreaded throughout the World. And there ſhall come *the Son of Man*, bearing the *Wild-beaſts in his Arms*, with a multitude of People. He ſhall paſs many *Waters*, and ſhall come to the Land of the *Lyon*, looking for help from the Beaſts of his own *Countrey*. Then ſhall there come an *Eagle* out of the Eaſt, and his Wings ſpread with the Beams of the *Son of Man*. And in that year ſhall be deſtroyed *Caſtles* upon the *Thames*, and there ſhall be great fear over all the World, and in a part of the Land. There ſhall be great *Battles* among many Kings. In that *Day* ſhall be the *Bloudy Field*, in which the *Lilly* ſhall loſe his *Crown*, wherewith the *Son of Man* ſhall be crowned: and in the fourth year many *Battles* ſhall be for the *Faith*. The *Head* of the World ſhall be brought to the Earth. And the *Son of Man* with the *Eagle* ſhall be exalted. And there ſhall be Univerſal Peace over all the World. And the *Son of Man* ſhall receive a wonderfull Sign. And there ſhall be great plenty of all Fruits of the Earth. And he ſhall go into the Land of the Croſs.

[ *The Lilly ſhall remain upon the better part.* ] By the *Lilly* is plainly meant *France*, whoſe Enſigns are the Lillies [ *ſhall remain on the better part* ] plainly ſignifies the long Succeſs and Triumph that *France* has obtained ſo many Years together; the *better part* being interpreted the *Conquering ſide*; the Glory, Greatneſs, and uninterrupted Proſperity of that encroaching Monarch having ſufficiently hitherto claimed him the Title of *Conquerour*.

[ *And he ſhall be moved againſt the ſeed of the Lyon.* ] That is, He ſhall make War againſt the *United Provinces*

and

and *Spaniſh Netherlands*, who are altogether called the *Belgick Lyon*, and give the *Lyon* for their Enſign, the very Figure of their Countrey in the Map being obſerved to reſemble a *Lyon*. [*And he ſhall ſtand upon one part amongſt the Thorns of his own Kingdom.*] His ſtanding upon Thorns ſignifies the Uneaſineſs of his own Kingdom, the Subjects of *France*, from the Tyranny and Slavery they groan under, the long Ambition of ſo Aſpiring a Prince laying no little Yoke and Oppreſſion upon that miſerable People. [*Whoſe Kingdom is the Land of the Moon.*] And the Land of the Moon muſt mean *France* ſtill, ſo called from the aforeſaid Uneaſineſs of the *French*, who onely want ſome happy and favourable hour, (poſſibly under the umbrage of ſome kind Invaſion) to ſhake off their long Yoke, and *change* their Fetters for Liberty; the *Moon* being always the Emblem of *change*, as indeed the whole Prophecy, (as you will find in the ſequel) looks that way. [*Which is to be dreaded throughout the World.*] Here this dreaded Kingdom plainly points to *France*, whoſe Power and Growth has but too long and too truly been the Terrour of the World. [*And there ſhall come the Son of man, who carries the wild Beaſts in his arms.*] This muſt intend the King and Kingdom of *England*, which is ſo diſtinguiſhing a Difference from all other Princes, that no Arms but thoſe of *England* pretend to wild Beaſts, a part of their Eſcutcheon. [*With a multitude of People.*] With a *multitude* indeed, as *Generaliſſimo* of the *Confederacy*, ſo many Nations and People fighting under his Standard.

[*He ſhall paſs many waters, and ſhall come to the Land of the Lyon, looking for help from the Beaſts of his own Countrey*] The paſſing of many Waters can apply to nothing but our preſent Sovereign, his firſt Expedition for the Redemption of *England*, his Voyage to *Ireland*, his paſſing the *Boyne*, his Succeſs over the *Shanon*, his ſeveral Expeditions to *Flanders*, all manifeſtly pointing at no other Prince. *His coming to the Land of the Lyon*, is his Embarquing for *Flanders*, *looking for help from the Beaſts*

*of*

*of his own Countrey*, that is, Expecting aſſiſtance from the *States General* of the *United Provinces*, the native Countrey of our preſent Sovereign. The word [*Beaſts*] in the Language of a Prophecy meaning [the People.] [*Then ſhall there come an Eagle out of the Eaſt, and his wings ſpread with the Beams of the Son of man.*] Here is plainly decypher'd his Imperial Majeſty of *Germany*, whoſe Enſign is, the *Eagle diſplay'd*; and his Wings being ſpread with the Beams of the Son of man, denotes the *Confederacy* between *England* and the Empire, the ſpreading the Imperial Wings by the Influence of the *Engliſh* Beams being a Prophecy truly fulfilled in his *Britannick* Majeſty's vigorous Eſpouſing of the common Quarrel of Chriſtendom, and the Dependence the whole Confederacy has upon that Potent and Leading Hero and Champion of their Cauſe. [*And in this year ſhall be deſtroyed Caſtles upon the Thames, and there ſhall be great Fear over all the World, and in a part of the Land.*] Theſe Caſtles upon the Thames undoubtedly can ſignifie nothing but the Naval Preparations: Thoſe floating Caſtles, the Fleets that ſhall be engaged in this Quarrel. The Fear that ſhall be over the World, being no more than the univerſal Apprehenſions on all ſides, together with the Eyes and Concerns of all Nations being bent and intent upon the Fortune and Succeſs of ſuch formidable Preparations. And that Fear that ſhall be *in a part of the Land*, may very reaſonably be applied to the preſent ſtate of *England*, where the Difference of Parties and Diviſions ſince the late Revolution, have poſſibly created ſome *particular Fears* in *England*, more and above thoſe of the whole World beſides, ſo highly (as beforeſaid) intereſted in the Common Cauſe of Chriſtendom. [*There ſhall be great Battles amongſt many Kings.*] This ſtill confirms the preſent Confederacy, in which all *Europe* ſtands engaged. [*In that day ſhall be the* Bloudy Field *in which the* Lilly *ſhall loſe his Crown wherewith the Son of man ſhall be crowned.*] Here we come to the concluding Stroke, that there ſhall be one more remarkable *Great Day*, being the *Deciſive Blow*, in which the

the *Lilly*, viz. *France*, ſhall be ſubdued and loſe her *Crown*, a Victory that ſhall be the particular Trophy of *England*, and the vanquiſh'd Diadem of *France*, the Conquerour's Prize and Reward. Nay, the very next Paragraph aſſigns the very Year in which this Defeat or Overthrow of *France* ſhall be accompliſh'd; *viz.* [*And in the* fourth Year, *many Battles ſhall be for the Faith, and the Head of the World ſhall be brought to the Earth, and the Son of man and the Eagle ſhall be exalted.*] Now what can this *Fourth Year* in any reaſonable Interpretation direct to but this very 1692. the Fourth Year of his Majeſty's Reign, when the Son of man and the Eagle, *viz.* the King of *England* and the Emperour ſhall be ſo highly exalted, by bringing down the Head of the World to earth, *viz.* the French King, that aſpires at leaſt to be that Head of the World, and indeed who has but too long ſtood fair for being ſo. The only thing that hitherto appears moſt myſtical through the whole Prophecy is, [*Battles for the Faith*] as if thereby were intimated ſome *Religious War*, which indeed is not the preſent Caſe of *Europe*. But that [*pro fide*] the words in the Original ſhould amount to [*pro fide Chriſtiana*] is going beyond the Text; and truly to make this finiſhing part all of a piece with the foregoing Diſcourſe, we have all imaginable reaſon to conſtrue the word *Fides* more inclining to *Fidelity*, in oppoſition to the Infidelity of *France*. And ſo the conſtruction will run thus: *Viz.* That theſe many great Battles in this great Fourth Year, ſhall be fought in the Cauſe of Righteouſneſs, Honour, Juſtice and Truth, by the *Confederacy*, for Recovery of ſo many Towns, Provinces, Principalities and Kingdoms, torn from 'em by the *Rapine* and *Violence* of the *French* King, or rather by his *Treachery* and *Gold*. This being the true [*pro fide*] for which this juſt War is waged againſt that great *Infidel* of the World, ſo notoriouſly guilty of all manner of Breach of *Faith*, *Leagues*, *Covenants*, nay *Oaths* themſelves. [*And there ſhall be Univerſal Peace over all the World.*] Undoubtedly the ſubduing of *France* muſt ſoon ſettle the whole World in Peace, and Plenty

Plenty accordingly follow. [ *And the Son of man ſhall receive a marvellous ſign; and ſhall goe into the Land of the Croſs.* ] What this wonderfull Sign ſhall be we muſt expect from Time, that part of the Prediction being above the Reach of Foreſight and Conjecture; nor can we dive ſo far as to aſſign any particular Interpretation to that laſt part, *his going into the Land of the Croſs*, unleſs we may for once adventure to give this meaning to the Cloſe of the Prophecy, *viz.* that this our *Great ſon of man* ſhall finiſh his Race of Glory by acquiring a yet brighter Crown; that is, from the Hand of the *Greater Son of man*, when as the laſt Trophy and Reward of Vertue and Honour he ſhall be received into the Land of the Glorified Sufferer on the Croſs, the Kingdom of Bliſs.

Thus far our Engliſh Prophecy. And now let us hear ſomething from a Prophet of their own, the famous *Noſtradamus*, the great Favourite of three French Kings, *Henry* the 2d. *Francis* the 2d. and *Charles* the 9th.

*Celuy qui la Principauté*
*Tiendra par grade cruauté*
*Ala fin, verra grand Phalange*
*Par Coup de feu tres dangereux,*
*Par accord pourroit fair mieux,*
*Autrement boira ſuc D'Orenge.*

In ENGLISH.

*He who ſhall with great Cruelty hold the Principality, in the Concluſion ſhall ſee a great Army ruin'd by a moſt dangerous Fire-blow, he might do better to make an Accord, otherways he ſhall drink the juice of Orange.*

Here is firſt, a plain Deſcription of the French Dominion, which is certainly carryed on by the greateſt Cruelty and Oppreſſion whereever their Arms have made a Conqueſt; ſo great are the *Deſolations* of *Germany*, eſpecially *Alſace*, and all that pleaſant, populous and fertile Countrey along the *Rhine*, that there is ſcarce an Inhabitant or a Village left for many Leagues together to make complaint of the barbarous Inhumanity of the French Armies, who have left behind 'em unexampled Inſtances of

their Cruelty in ſuch unprecedented Spoils and Ravage.

[*And he ſhall ſee his Army ruin'd by the moſt dangerous Blow of Fire.*] Not improbable. Heaven often meaſures by the *Lex talionis*. *Fire ſhall deſtroy thoſe who have deſtroyed ſo many innocent Millions by Fire.* But by this Fire he ſeems to intimate the Force of Powder, the now common and terrible Fuel of the horrid Engines of War. [*He might do better to make an Accord.*] Certainly this would be wholeſome Councel for *France*, if the Ambition of the Great *Lewis* would refund ſome part of his ill-gotten Victories to purchaſe that Peace, which indeed is not agreeing with his Kidney. [*Otherways he ſhall drink the Juice of Orange.*] By this Juice of *Orange* muſt be meant, The Arms of our Illuſtrious Monarch, for want of which Accord, not made, nor now like to be, he ſhall feel the Force and Power of that Victorious Hero deſigned for Greatneſs and Wonders.

I ſhall only add one more of the Prophecies of *Noſtradamus*.

*Le grand D'Hongrie ira dans la Nacelle*
*Le Nóveau ne fera guerre novelle,*
*A ſon voiſin qu'il tiendra aſſiegé,*
*Et le Noire au avec ſon Alteſſe,*
*Ne ſouffrira que par trop on le preſſe*
*Durant Trois ans ſes Gens tiendra rangé.*

In ENGLISH.

*The great one of* Hungary *ſhall go to the Boat, the new one ſhall not make a new War againſt his Neighbour, whom he ſhall beſiege on every ſide. And the black one with his Highneſs, ſhall not ſuffer him to be over-preſſed. During three Years he ſhall keep his People in order.*

By *the Great one of Hungary* is meant the Emperour, *Hungary* being his Hereditary Kingdom. And [*Great one*] makes it this preſent Emperour, all his Imperial Predeceſſors from *Noſtradamus*'s Time being ſo far from *Great* in *Hungary*, that the whole Kingdom till this laſt Reign was all in the Hands of Infidels, a Province of the Turkiſh Empire. By *his going into the Boat* is meant, his Embarquing

quing in the *Confederation*. By the *new one* is meant, a new King of *France*, that is, ſuch a one as *France* never had before. *He ſhall not make a new War with his Neighbour*, that is, it ſhall not be a new War, but the old Game play'd out; his continued Ambition of acquiring the Univerſal Empire of *Europe*; his ſhort Ceſſation of Arms in King *Charles* the Second's Reign, and the few Conqueſts, he then gave up, being ſo far from any intended Peace with the Empire, or any other of the Allies, that on the contrary, 'twas onely a Blind to lull his Neighbours for ſome little time a-ſleep, till he cou'd get better opportunity, and more ſtrength to cut their Throats. The feeble *Nimiguen* Treaty, and all the *pretended* Mediatorſhip of King *Charles* (pardon the *Epithete*, for though a *bold* one, 'tis a true one) being only that politick *Cobweb-lawn* made on purpoſe to break through. *His Neighbour whom he ſhall beſiege on every ſide*, is the Emperour, whom he does not only invade on one ſide, but is likewiſe the grand *Animator* (if not the *original* Firebrand) of the preſent Turkiſh Wars that attaque the Emperour on the other ſide. *And the black one with his Highneſs, ſhall not ſuffer him to be overpreſs'd*; that is, the *Spaniard*, with his Highneſs the *Prince* of *Orange*, ſhall take the Emperour's part, and make ſome Check to the Progreſs of *France*, for *The black one* muſt mean *Spain*, the Epithete of *Black* being the vulgar Characteriſtick of the *Spaniard*; and *His Highneſs* muſt mean his preſent Majeſty, more properly called *His Highneſs* in the Prophecy, as the young *Hannibal* againſt *Rome*, being an early *ſworn* Foe to *France*: and though not ſo Potent a one, yet no leſs zealous a Champion of the Confederacy, when only *Prince of Orange*.

[ *During* Three *Years he ſhall keep his People in order* ] Here the Engliſh and French Prophet jump, for here we come to the old Prediction of this approaching 92. the famous *Fourth Year* of His Majeſty's Reign before mentioned. *During three Years* of our Sovereigns Reign *France* ſhall hold up his Head againſt his Enemies, and make hard ſhift to keep Peace at home. But this great *Fourth*

*Year*

*Year* let him look for *Domeſtick* Inſurrections and Rebellions from a People overladen with the intolerable Burthen of ſo long a War; and feel the Weight of the impending Bolts that hang over him; whoſe Execution perhaps the Juſtice of Providence has thus long retarded, to fall at laſt more home and more heavy. When both the *Eagle* and the *Son of man* ſhall be exalted, and the *Lilly* meet the Fate it has deſerved.

I hope I have here given the Reader a very rational and natural Conſtruction of theſe ſeveral Prophecies. I ſhall only adde one Remark. That theſe Prophecies with ſome others printed about 15 Years ſince, it was endeavoured there to make the great Hero foretold of to doe ſuch Wonders againſt *France*; (*viz.* the *Black one* in this Prophecy, and the *Son of man* in the other) to be meant *King Charles the ſecond*. A very odd ſort of an Interpretation, to make that unfortunate, if not infatuated Prince, the foredoom'd Scourge of *France*, when his Inclinations lay ſo clearly the contrary way; a Prince ſo ſtrangely rivetted and tyed to the French Intereſt, that both the old Engliſh Honour and the Safety of his People were daily leſſen'd by the exorbitant Growth of *France*. (The beſt Favour *England* could expect from ſo inſatiate an Ambition, to be laſt devour'd by this hungry *Polyphemus*.) The Obligation of Truſt lodged in him as *Arbiter of Europe*, nor the Common Juſtice of aiding the injur'd Side, the *Confederacy*; in ſhort, neither theſe, nor any other Conſiderations, were of Force to wean him from his extravagant Dotage and Fondneſs to *France*; but rather to make him lend all Help to the ſtrengthning that *Horſe*, whoſe Foot, if he would have remembred, had before (*viz.* in his *Exile*) not over-kindly ſpurned him out of Doors.

*FINIS.*

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